

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled LATCH APPARATUS AND METHOD (Attorney Docket No. 87801-9007-00), the specification of which was filed with my authority, on March 9, 2000 as Application Serial No. 09/522,158.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

And I hereby appoint Gerald L. Fellows (Reg. No. 36,133), Christopher B. Austin (Reg. No. 41,592), David L. De Bruin (Reg. No. 35,489), Randall W. Fieldhack (Reg. No. 43,611), Joseph A. Gemignani (Reg. No. 19,482), Gregory J. Hartwig (Reg. No. P-46,761), Daniel S. Jones (Reg. No. 42,697), Richard L. Kaiser (Reg. No. 46,158), Timothy M. Kelley (Reg. No. 34,201), Casimir F. Laska (Reg. No. 30,862), Edward R. Lawson, Jr. (Reg. No. 41,931), Richard H. Marschall (Reg. No. 39,290), Thomas A. Miller (Reg. No. 36,871), Kevin P. Moran (Reg. No. 37,193), Andrew R. Peret (Reg. No. 41,246), David R. Price (Reg. No. 31,557), Thomas S. Reynolds II (Reg. No. 45,262), David B. Smith (Reg. No. 27,595), Derek C. Stettner (Reg. No. 37,945), Billie Jean Strandt (Reg. No. 36,940), Sheldon L. Wolfe (Reg. No. 43,996), Paul F. Donovan (Reg. No. 39,962), Grady J. Frenchick (Reg. No. 29,018), Karen B. King (Reg. No. 41,898), Linda Blair Meier (Reg. No. 39,769), Teresa J. Welch (Reg. No. 33,049), Robert S. Beiser (Reg. No. 28,687), Witold A. Ziarno (Reg. No. 39,888), and each or any of them, my attorneys or agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS IN OR PERTAINING TO THIS APPLICATION TO:

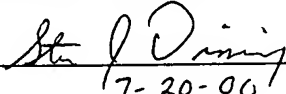
Gerald L. Fellows
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
(414) 271-6560

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of the United States applications listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

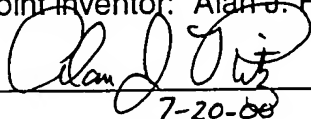
<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
09/263,415	5 March 1999	Pending
09/408,993	29 September 1999	Pending

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

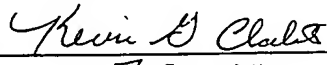
Full name of first joint inventor: Steven J. Dimig

Inventor's signature 
Date: 7-20-00
Residence: Plymouth, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: W4931 County Road J
Plymouth, WI 53073

Full name of second joint inventor: Alan J. Ritz

Inventor's signature 
Date: 7-20-00
Residence: Brookfield, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: 3385 Wilshire Road
Brookfield, WI 53045

Full name of third joint inventor: Kevin G. Clabots

Inventor's signature 
Date: 7-20-00
Residence: Milwaukee, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: 236 North Water Street, 4th Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Full name of fourth joint inventor: James M. Gruden

Inventor's signature _____

Date: _____

Residence: Centerville, OH

Citizenship: United States

Post Office Address: 7948 Southbury Drive
Centerville, OH 45458

Full name of fifth joint inventor: Larry R. Grimmer

Inventor's signature Larry R. Grimmer

Date: 7-21-00

Residence: Sussex, WI

Citizenship: United States

Post Office Address: W236 N7025 Summit Court
Sussex, WI 53089

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Full name of first joint inventor: Steven J. Dimig

Inventor's signature _____
Date: _____
Residence: Plymouth, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: W4931 County Road J
Plymouth, WI 53073

Full name of second joint inventor: Alan J. Ritz

Inventor's signature _____
Date: _____
Residence: Brookfield, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: 3385 Wilshire Road
Brookfield, WI 53045

Full name of third joint inventor: Kevin G. Clabots

Inventor's signature _____
Date: _____
Residence: Milwaukee, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: 236 North Water Street, 4th Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Full name of fourth joint inventor: James M. Gruden

Inventor's signature James M. Gruden
Date: 2 AUG 00

Residence: Centerville, OH
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: 7948 Southbury Drive
Centerville, OH 45458

Full name of fifth joint inventor: Larry R. Grimmer

Inventor's signature _____
Date: _____

Residence: Sussex, WI
Citizenship: United States
Post Office Address: W236 N7025 Summit Court
Sussex, WI 53089